

## Summary of Accreditation Survey of Other States

In an effort to better understand the variety of ways in which states ensure the quality of educator preparation programs, Commission staff conducted a telephone survey of 12 states. Staff was successful in gathering data from 11 of the 12 states. The following states were surveyed:

State	No. of Institutions	State	No. of Institutions
Connecticut	14	New York	110
Florida	29	North Carolina	43
Illinois	54	Pennsylvania	93
Indiana	38	Texas	69
Maryland	23	Washington	22
Massachusetts	55		

### **Observations**

#### **Use of NCATE:**

- All states use NCATE accreditation processes to some extent, ranging from required NCATE accreditation to optional NCATE accreditation which is not used in any way in the state's accreditation/approval process.

#### **Entity that is reviewed:**

- 5 states have a program approval process, 6 accredit all educator preparation programs as a whole (similar to California).

#### **Type of process:**

- All states surveyed use a standards based system;
- 10 states use a combination standards/performance based system, but the definition of performance based system differs among the states.

#### **Accreditation cycle:**

- Most states have an accreditation cycle of 5 years, ranging from Texas' system of pass rate review on a 1 year cycle to New York's relatively new system that has a 7 year cycle;
- Some states indicate that they may move to a 7 year cycle if NCATE adopts such a cycle.

#### **Accreditation methods used:**

- 10 states use a peer review process that include both document review and site visits;
- 7 states include a separate state process of document review and site visits;
- 8 states use quantifiable data in their process of accreditation/program approval to some extent, but it was difficult to determine exactly how the data are used in the accreditation process;
- 9 states use self-studies -- one state, Florida, requires 5 self studies in their 5 year cycle;
- states collect various forms of data for use in their processes, 4 states collect annual data for use in either monitoring programs and/or in evaluating the programs for accreditation purposes.

**Costs:**

- In general, state and institutions bear the burden for the accreditation costs, with the exception of Washington where teacher certification fees to cover cost.

**Length of time system in place:**

- Only 3 states have had their systems in place for less than 6 years, Pennsylvania, Washington and New York;
- Several states have made revisions to requirements of their systems in recent years.
- None of the states in the sample are planning revisions in the near future.

**Annual data reporting:**

- Five states have annual reporting systems (other than basic Title II reporting) for use in monitoring/accreditation activities:
- Florida: requires 5 self-studies in their accreditation cycle;
- Indiana: Has a Unit Assessment System that is reported by institutions annually and is used in the monitoring of programs and identifying weaknesses for accreditation purposes;
- Maryland: Requires an annual Teacher Preparation Improvement Plan;
- Washington: Collects annual survey data from employers, students, and alumni that are used to identify areas of technical assistance to institutions.
- North Carolina: Requires an annual IHE Performance Report and an additional report if an institution falls below the 70% pass rate on Praxis.